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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/692,707	10/24/2003	Kenny K. Chinn	AB-123U1 / 585-0026US-C	9782
76573	7590	03/17/2008		
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EXAMINER				
CAZAN, LIVIUS RADU				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
3729				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
03/17/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/692,707

Applicant(s)

CHINN ET AL.

Examiner

LIVIOUS R. CAZAN

Art Unit

3729

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 February 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. The amendment filed on 12/18/2007 has been fully considered and made of record.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
3. Claims 1, 3, 4, and 7-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flies (US4578573 to Flies et al.) in view of Yamamoto (US5223676 to Yamamoto et al.).

See the Office Action mailed on 10/16/2007. The rejection is maintained.

4. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flies and Yamamoto in view of Spooner (US3396461 to Spooner et al.).

See the Office Action mailed on 10/16/2007. The rejection is maintained.

5. Claims 6 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flies and Yamamoto in view of Eisenreich (US3673467).

See the Office Action mailed on 10/16/2007. The rejection is maintained.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 12/18/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that layer 11 of Yamamoto is formed on the top and bottom planar surfaces of the PCB and is not coupled to an edge of the PCB.

The Examiner respectfully disagrees. The layer 11 of Yamamoto is coupled to the edge of the PCB at least to the extent that it extends within a plane of the PCB all the way to the lateral edges of the PCB, as can clearly be seen in Figs. 1 and 2. Likewise, the contacts 24 of Flies extend all the way to the edges of the PCB of Flies, as can be seen in Fig. 9. Yamamoto is used for its teaching of forming metal patterns for printed circuit boards by punching out the pattern from sheet metal. The rejection relies on the combination of these references, rather than on either reference by itself. Therefore, the main argument of the rejection is that given Yamamoto's teaching of punching circuit patterns from sheet metal, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to do the same to obtain a suitable pattern for the circuit board of Flies. Therefore, even if Yamamoto had not taught the circuit pattern extending all the way to the edge of the circuit board, the rejection still would have been proper, because Flies already possesses the claimed structure, Yamamoto is merely relied upon to show that it would be obvious to obtain this structure through a process such as punching it from sheet metal.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LIVIUS R. CAZAN whose telephone number is (571)272-8032. The examiner can normally be reached on M-T 6:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on (571)272-4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/A. Dexter Tugbang/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3729

/L. R. C./ 3/4/2008
Examiner, Art Unit 3729